

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

**Payments of sugarcane dues**

462. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy arrears of payments of sugarcane to the farmers from various sugar mills in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount of arrears and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) and (b) Cane Price arrears as on 31.01.2007, for the current sugar season 2006-07 are Rs. 1494.82 crores (provisional) which are 15.64% of the total cane price payable as on that date. Cane price arrears for the corresponding month of the last sugar season 2005-06 were Rs. 1088.86 crores (Provisional) which were 12.20% of the total cane price payable as on that date. Besides, a sum of Rs. 284.81 crores is outstanding, as on 31.01.2007, as cane price arrears in respect of sugar season 2004-05 and earlier. A statement indicating the State-wise details of cane price arrears is enclosed in Statement (*See below*). The cane price arrears arises mainly due to sickness of the sugar mill, poor financial position, higher cost of production, lower sales realization, higher inventory of stocks, high level of sugar production and pending court cases etc.

(c) The responsibility of ensuring timely payment of cane price arrears to the sugarcane growers lies with the respective State Governments who have been delegated necessary powers to ensure payment of cane price arrears. However, the Central Government, on its part, regularly monitors the position of payment of cane price arrears and it had taken necessary measures such as creation of buffer stock, financial assistance to State Governments to help them in clearing cane price arrears etc. when required.

**Statement**

*Details of cane price payable, cane price paid and cane price arrear for 2006-07 sugar season and cane price arrear for 2005-06 season and earlier period*

*(In Lakh Rs.)*

Sl. No.	State	Cane Price Payable 2006-07	Cane Price Paid 2006-07	Cane Price Arrears 2006-07	%	Cane Price Arrears 2005-06	Cane Price Arrears 2004-05 & Earlier	Total Cane Price Arrears	Status as on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Punjab	31971.27	28413.32	3557.95	11.13	0.00	0.00	3557.95	15.01.07
2.	Haryana	36200.98	27710.43	8490.55	23.45	0.00	3573.00	12063.55	31.01.07
3.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.12.06
4.	UP.	394622.99	376984.44	17638.55	4.47	0.00	9002.17	26640.72	31.01.07
5.	Uttaranchal	35237.58	26538.59	8698.99	24.69	0.00	0.00	8698.99	31.01.07
6.	MP.	1947.37	1797.23	150.14	7.71	257.13	98.66	505.93	31.01.06
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
8.	Gujarat	39082.69	30796.05	8286.64	21.20	38.38	124.54	8449.56	31.01.07
9.	Maharashtra	165229.36	138636.05	26593.31	16.09	298.58	4632.73	31524.62	31.12.06
10.	Bihar	28156.31	16691.02	11465.29	40.72	54.00	4264.41	15783.70	31.01.07
11.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
12.	Andhra Pradesh	687392.4	53682.42	15056.82	21.90	0.00	3495.46	185522.8	31.01.07
13.	Karnataka	87448.00	52052.00	35396.00	40.48	1136.00	2690.00	392220.0	31.01.07
14.	Tamil Nadu	64100.84	50990.36	13110.48	20.45	0.00	2152.3	13325.71	31.01.07
15.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	384.74	384.74	31.12.06
16.	Orissa	798.82	438.03	360.79	45.17	0.00	0.00	360.79	31.12.06
17.	W. Bengal	376.40	187.28	189.12	50.24	0.00	0.00	189.12	15.01.07
18.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
19.	Pondicherry	1148.51	672.68	2758.3	24.02	0.00	0.00	275.83	31.01.07
20.	Goa	824.80	613.40	211.40	25.63	0.00	0.00	211.40	15.01.07
Total		955885.16	806403.30	149481.86	15.64	1784.09	28480.94	179746.89	

[2 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA